



City of Gaithersburg Press Release

Contact: Public Information Director
City of Gaithersburg
301-258-6310
cityhall@gaithersburgmd.gov

For Immediate Release

Editor's Note: The Gaithersburg Police Department has ordered that NO MEDIA VEHICLES will be allowed up to the parade route. A media staging area will be designated at the corner of Russell and Brookes Avenues.

81st Annual Labor Day Parade Winds through Olde Towne Gaithersburg

Gaithersburg, MD (August 16, 2019) The City of Gaithersburg and the Gaithersburg-Washington Grove Fire Department celebrate the unofficial end of summer with the 81st Annual Labor Day Parade on Monday, September 2, 2019, at 1 p.m. Wisdom Martin, FOX 5 DC News Anchor and member of the Good Day DC Team, joins the parade as Master of Ceremonies. This year's Grand Marshal is 2019 Distinguished Citizen Janet Neumann, who is a longtime volunteer with Gaithersburg HELP. The Labor Day Parade is sponsored by Entercom (106.7 The Fan, 94.7 The Drive and El Zol 107.9).

The parade features an assortment of high school marching bands, dance groups, costumed characters, antique cars and fire engines, equestrian units, clowns, and more, all winding their way down East Diamond and Russell Avenues. Note that participation in the Labor Day Parade by groups or organizations other than City of Gaithersburg officials, departments or committees does not constitute City of Gaithersburg endorsement. Food vendors will be located at [Olde Towne Plaza](#) and the parking lot next to the Gaithersburg-Washington Grove Fire Station, and treats will be sold along Russell Avenue.

Ample free parking is available at the Lakeforest Shopping Center transit station, with complimentary shuttle service to and from Gaithersburg Elementary School beginning at noon. Those who wish to view the parade in the shade along Russell Avenue can walk there from the transit station by way of Odend'hal Avenue. Limited free parking is available in the [Olde Towne Parking Garage](#), located at the corner of Olde Towne and South Summit Avenues. Accessible parking for those with disability placards or plates is available behind the Victor Litz store on the north side of Diamond Avenue and behind the Shell station on South Summit Avenue.

For more information, visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov or call 301-258-6350.

About the Labor Day Parade

Gaithersburg's Labor Day Parade is one the City's oldest traditions. The Gaithersburg Fire Department established a rescue squad in 1938 and that year its volunteers hosted traditional fundraising events such as dinners and dances and a Labor Day Parade. Early parades included a band competition, carnival booths and a dance. Eventually the carnival and dance aspects ceased to be a profitable way for the department to raise

money, but the volunteers did continue to sponsor the Labor Day parade until 1977, when a citizen's committee undertook the task of organizing the end-of-summer festivity. The event is now coordinated by the City of Gaithersburg Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, with continued support from the Gaithersburg-Washington Grove Fire Department. It has been held every year except 1942, during World War II.